



After near win,
SC Libertarian
Jeremy Walters
calls for rematch

Read more on Page 11

LPN

The Party of Principle™

News

June 2014

The Official Newspaper of the Libertarian Party

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CHARACTER Matters

Libertarian Party National Convention – Columbus, Ohio – June 26-29, 2014

Join us in June at the 2014 LP National Convention!

By Nancy Neale
Chair, Convention
Management Committee

The 2014 Libertarian Party National Convention will take place over the **last weekend of June** at the Hyatt Regency in downtown Columbus, Ohio. This location is within a day's drive to a majority of our membership, so many of you could make it a road trip!

The theme of this convention is **CHARACTER Matters**. I was inspired by a little book by **Lawrence W. Reed**, titled *Are We Good Enough for Liberty?* As Larry writes, "Without character, a free society is not just unlikely ... it's impossible." While the D's and R's lie and steal, we L's must take the high ground, even though it may not be the politically expedient way. This is why I have invited Mr. Reed to be our **Keynote speaker on Friday morning** to inspire us and set the tone of the weekend.

The convention will officially kick off with the **"Welcome" Reception on Thursday evening, June 26**, with hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar, as well as entertainment. Attendance to this reception is included in all packages.

The business sessions will begin the following morning (right after the Keynote) and run throughout the day on Friday and Saturday until Sunday after-

More convention coverage inside!

Turn to pages 5 through 12 for a schedule, speaker bios, and more!

noon. (The credentialed delegates actually set and modify the business agenda.)

There will be **breakfasts** and **lunches** on **Friday** and **Saturday**, with top-notch speakers. And on **Saturday night**, dress up for cocktail hour followed by a fabulous **banquet** with an entertaining and fun-filled program.

Concurrent with the business sessions, there will be a track of **breakouts**, where you can hear more great speakers on a wide variety of topics.

Floor access to the business sessions are for credentialed delegates only, although there will be an observation deck for others to watch the proceedings.

But you don't have to be a delegate to attend this wonderful convention!

Per our bylaws, we must hold a convention every two years. But what a great opportunity to gather together as many Libertarians (and might-be libertarians) as possible to hear great speakers and share ideas and network with other freedom lovers!

In fact, we encourage anyone and everyone to buy a package ("register") to be a part of this great event.

I look forward to seeing you there!



Libertarian candidates call for shutting down NSA, ending mass surveillance

By Carla Howell
Political Director

Public revolt against the National Security Administration's (NSA) mass surveillance of Americans has created an opening for Libertarian candidates who vow to end government violations of the Fourth Amendment.

Politicians claim that citizens shouldn't be concerned with government snooping if they have "nothing to hide." Luckily, most Americans don't buy it. They strongly dislike the possibility of a perfect stranger having access to private conversations that could involve finance, romance, or business affairs, and that are potentially embarrassing, humiliating, or disruptive.

Many Americans also sense the potential for serious government abuse. Sophisticated computer programs can glean volumes of sensitive information collected by the government about people's relationships, activities, and even beliefs. This can lead to the arrest and prosecution of innocent Americans without due process.

Reports of the IRS targeting political groups over the last year have further eroded the case for trusting the NSA and any other

continued on page 3...

CHAIR'S CORNER

Nothing quite like a National Convention

by Geoffrey J. Neale, Chair

There are many reasons to attend the upcoming Libertarian Party National Convention in Columbus, Ohio, to be held from June 26 through June 29.

There will be a great lineup of meal speakers, floor speakers, and workshop/breakout speakers. Experts in many fields will share their knowledge and experiences. In between these events, you'll have opportunities to meet these very same people individually. Please check the website for specifics.

The delegates will consider, debate, and vote on recommendations from the Platform Committee and the Bylaws Committee. The delegates will also decide the composition of the next Libertarian National Committee, the body that runs the Libertarian Party between conventions.

But there is so much that happens that is not on the convention agenda. There is nothing quite like a national convention. The hotel will be full of Libertarians. You will be among more like-minded people than at any other place and time (at least until the 2016 National Convention).

However, the anticipation I feel before attending national conventions is always less than the satisfaction I feel after the convention is over. I've never regretted attending, even if things don't turn out the way I expect, because every convention has its own character, and surprises are usually in store.

This will be the 15th consecutive national conven-



Geoffrey J. Neale

tion both for Nancy and for me. We've been to national conventions in Phoenix; Seattle; Philadelphia; Chicago; Salt Lake City; Washington, D.C. (twice); Anaheim; Indianapolis; Atlanta; Portland; Denver; St. Louis; and Las Vegas. We will soon be adding Columbus, Ohio, to that list.

Columbus is a city that many people know little about, but it has left me with very favorable impressions during my several visits there. There are many things to do outside of the convention, many of which are very family friendly, such as the botanical gardens with its outstanding displays of Dale Chihuly glass sculptures and the world-famous Columbus Zoo.

I can also certainly recommend the night life and restaurant scene within an easy walk of the convention site. Make sure you stop in at the iconic Jeni's Ice Cream and try some of their signature flavors, like wildberry lavender ice cream, lime cardamom frozen yogurt, or riesling poached pear sorbet. I highly recommend it.

But the number one reason why I always enjoy national conventions is that I have established and nurtured many friendships over the many conventions I've attended. I know that I will be seeing and spending time with old friends, and will also be making new friends. I am looking forward to Columbus with anticipation.

The following individuals became Lifetime Members of the Libertarian Party between March 20, 2014, and April 23, 2014:

Theresa Abercrombie

Robert B. Appelbaum

Michael Chastain

Louis Denrich

Fred Dan Fernandes

Richard A. Riley

Dr. Robyn Sterner

Raymond E. Strunk

Dean L. Tucker

The Libertarian Party grants Lifetime Membership to individuals who contribute at least \$1,000 during any 12-month period. Call 202-333-0008 to find out how much more you would need to donate to become a Lifetime Member today.

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LPNews

The Purposes of the Libertarian Party:

The party is organized to implement and give voice to the principles embodied in the Statement of Principles by: functioning as a libertarian political entity separate and distinct from all other political parties or movements; moving public policy in a libertarian direction by building a political party that elects Libertarians to public office; chartering affiliate parties throughout the United States and promoting their growth and activities; nominating candidates for president and vice president of the United States, and supporting party and affiliate party candidates for political office; and, entering into public information activities.

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David F. Nolan Memorial Office Fund donors, March 20–April 23

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Geoffrey & Nancy Neale

Hero of Liberty

Michael Chastain

Benefactor of Liberty

Louis Denrich
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Carla Howell
John Kannarr

Defender of Liberty

Anina and Ben Bachrach
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Great news! On April 25, the Libertarian National Committee closed on a new office space for the party's national headquarters in Alexandria, Va., which will substantially reduce the party's annual operating costs. This office will be named the David F. Nolan Memorial Office, in honor of our party's founder.

Don't miss this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to have your name appear inside this historic office, right alongside David Nolan's.

Contribute today: LP.org/office-fund



End mass surveillance

...continued from page 1

government agency that collects data without a valid warrant. There is little to stop them from using it as a political weapon.

While Democrats and Republicans continue to justify and defend the NSA's logging and recording of phone conversations, emails, and other private, personal information, Libertarian federal and state candidates are campaigning on bold measures to restore the Fourth Amendment.

Thirty Libertarian candidates running for federal office have taken the following pledge:

"If elected, I will sponsor legislation to abolish the NSA, grant clemency and full whistleblower protection to Edward Snowden, consolidate our 18 spy agencies into one accountable agency, and cut taxes accordingly."

The candidates who have taken the pledge are: Andrew Horning (IN), Arvin Vohra (MD), Bill Slantz (MO), Calvin Stancill (MD), Chris Clemmons (KS), Danny Bedwell (MS), David Cunningham (TX), David Macko (OH), Davy Jones (WV), Ed Colliver (TX), Edward Rankin (TX), Jack Seaman (ND), James Carr (VA), Jamie O. Perez (TX), Jason Reeves (TX), Jeffrey Blunt (TX), Jim McDermott (AK), Jim Vein (UT), Joe Baratelli (NJ), John Buckley (WV), John Wieder (TX), Marc Harrold (VA), Mike Kolls (TX), Ray Netherwood (FL), Rob Lapham (TX), Rodney Veach (TX), Russ Jones (TX), Ryan Shields (TX), Sean Haugh (NC), and Sharon Hansen (IL).

Libertarian federal candidates are also running on Fourth Amendment measures to do the following:

"The two big government parties have erected a huge ugly black building in northern Utah, which will divert 1.7 million gallons of water per day just to cool the computers the NSA uses to illegally monitor and surveil the American people. One of my first acts as a U.S. Senator will be to introduce legislation to close, dismantle, and auction off that building, along with all of its black paneling."

— Roger Roots, LP Montana candidate for U.S. Senate



Roger Roots

- Delete all existing data collected using mass surveillance.
- Repeal the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) and prohibit secret courts.
- Repeal the Patriot Act.
- Repeal the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA).
- Repeal the Real ID Act.
- End the use of surveillance drones.
- Abolish the TSA and end all associated fees tacked onto the cost of flights. Allow airlines to establish their own security policies and allow the marketplace to determine the best trade-off between security, cost, convenience, and privacy.
- Cosponsor and vote for the USA Freedom Act, which is building support in the U.S. House. If enacted, it will curb the National Security Agency's ability to conduct communications sweeps and close a "back door" to information by requiring a court order when performing searches of Americans in data already collected

without warrants.

Libertarians running for state office are also running on Fourth Amendment measures to do the following:

- Nullify NDAA and other Fourth Amendment violations by refusing to cooperate with federal authorities.
- End random DUI (driving under the influence) checkpoints.
- Prohibit government stop-and-frisk policies.
- Prohibit government facial recognition systems.

Roger Roots, Montana, U.S Senate

Dr. Roger Roots is a nationally recognized criminologist, legal scholar, and civil liberties activist. He is the author of more than two dozen noteworthy scholarly articles. Some of his research has been relied on by federal courts and cited in the *Harvard Law Review* and the *Yale Law Journal*.

In 2010, Roots was awarded a grant by the New York Institute of Technology for his continuing research into the origi-

continued on page 4...

Benefits of fully restoring the Fourth Amendment, exonerating Edward Snowden, shrinking American spy apparatus

- Each American family will get back, on average, \$540 every year that they now pay in taxes.
- Privacy! No more snooping on your private emails, phone calls, text messages, Skype sessions, and other personal communication without your consent. No risk of embarrassment and humiliation due to others' unwelcome knowledge of your personal life. You alone will control your private information.
- Assurance of privacy will increase use of online banking and shopping, creating greater convenience for shoppers and increased sales for online vendors. It also encourages use of email, which cuts costs for businesses, cuts prices for consumers, liberates personal communications, and reduces paper waste.
- Protection from warrantless government search and seizure will greatly reduce the risk of unjust arrests and prosecution of innocent Americans, and will lessen the risk of America devolving into a state of tyranny.
- Exonerating Edward Snowden will grant him the respect and freedom he deserves, and will make it safe for whistleblowers to speak up when the government violates the rights of citizens.
- Ending the TSA will make air travel dignified, lower-cost, safer, faster, and more convenient.
- Returning control of air travel security to the airlines will free them to insure all contents of lost or damaged luggage — now restricted to just clothing and toiletries. Passengers will be free to pack valuables in checked luggage, knowing they won't be stolen by a TSA employee. No more lugging heavy valuables on planes to guard against a loss.

End mass surveillance

...continued from page 3

nal intent of the Fourth Amendment.

"The two big government parties have erected a huge ugly black building in northern Utah, which will divert 1.7 million gallons of water per day just to cool the computers the NSA uses to illegally monitor and surveil the American people," Roots said. "One of my first acts as a U.S. Senator will be to introduce legislation to close, dismantle, and auction off that building, along with all of its black paneling."

He continued, "I will also push for a special prosecutor, independent from the Justice Department, to investigate and prosecute everyone involved in unlawfully intercepting the phone calls and other communications of the American people."

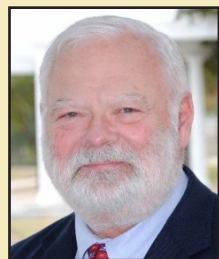
Roots has also written extensively on the First Amendment, the necessity of a fully informed jury, and the establishment of a fair and equal court system. He wrote bills in 2011 and 2013 to require Montana judges to fully inform juries of their absolute right to acquit and to determine the law in jury trials. In 2011, Roots initiated a formal request to U.S. Chief Justice John Roberts aimed at removing unfair advantages for the U.S. Justice Department from the Federal Rules.

Roots is a founding member of the Wall of Tolerance, cofounded by Rosa Parks, whose courageous stand against authoritarian government in 1955 showed millions of others how to resist government by simply saying no.

• **Website:** rogerroots.com

Sean Haugh, North Carolina, U.S. Senate

Sean Haugh was the political director for the Libertarian National Committee from 2007 to 2009 and served for eight



Rob Lapham

"The feds should take a lesson from El Al, responsible for airline and passenger security in probably the most terror-threatened nation on earth, Israel. United States carriers should handle their own security. If elected to Congress I will sponsor legislation to abolish the TSA."

— Rob Lapham, LP Texas candidate for U.S. House

years as the chair and executive director of the Libertarian Party of North Carolina.

This is his sixth run for office and his second run for U.S. Senate in the state. He last ran for the seat in 2002.

Sean Haugh is running to boldly reduce the federal government in all areas. He is passionate about ending government acts of aggression, including overseas military interventions and violations of the Fourth Amendment.

"NSA spying treats everyone like a terrorism suspect without cause" he said. "We must stop treating our citizens as enemy combatants."

• **Website:** fb.com/HaughForSenate

Rob Lapham, Texas, U.S. House

Rob Lapham is a retired businessman and former executive director for the Libertarian Party of Texas. He is now a member of the Texas LP Executive Committee and is working on technology solutions for the party.

Lapham is campaigning to downsize Big Government across the board. In addition to his pledge to restore the Fourth Amendment, he aims to eliminate the TSA.

"Who believes that the federal government is more capable in working to secure the safety of aircraft and its passengers than the airlines themselves?" he asked. "The feds should take a lesson from El Al, responsible for airline and passenger security in probably the most terror-threatened nation on earth, Israel. U.S. carriers should handle their own security. If elected to Con-

gress I will sponsor legislation to abolish the TSA."

• **Website:** lptexas.org/federal-candidates

James Carr, Virginia, U.S. House

James Carr works in the health care field, specializing in finance, business systems, and advanced analytics. He and his wife have three young children who inspired him to run for Congress. He wants them to grow up in an America where they feel safe, where their future is not in jeopardy every time politicians pass a budget, and where political duty does not mean selling out ideals.

Carr was raised in a low-income family, worked his way through college, and — like many his age — was saddled with school loan debts. He's running for office to restore fiscal sanity to the federal budget, make markets free, and expand civil liberties.

"If elected, I will work to put a stop to the systematic invasion of privacy, the complete disregard of the Fourth Amendment that is in place now," he said. "If we do not fight against government intrusion, we can fully expect that our most intimate conversations will be twisted and used against us for political gain of those already in power."

Carr continued, "The idea of allowing the government to subvert the Fourth Amendment in the name of security flies in the face of its intent. Trading our security from governmental abuse for possible security from potential threat is like putting your head in a lion's mouth because you don't think a tiger will be in there."

• **Website:** jamescarrforcongress.org



James Carr

"If elected, I will work to put a stop to the systematic invasion of privacy, the complete disregard of the 4th amendment that is in place now," he said. "If we do not fight against government intrusion, we can fully expect that our most intimate conversations will be twisted and used against us for political gain of those already in power."

— James Carr, LP Virginia candidate for U.S. Senate

PAID SPONSORSHIP

The Libertarian Party of Colorado would like to recognize all of its candidates for the November 2014 election. These men & women are ensuring that every voter in the state of Colorado will see at least six Libertarians on their ballot!

U.S. SENATE
Gaylon Kent

U.S. CONGRESS

CD1	Frank Atwood
CD3	Travis Mero
CD4	Jess Loban
CD6	Norm Olsen
CD7	Tyler Bagley

COLORADO STATEWIDE

Governor	Matthew Hess
Lt. Governor	Brandon Young
Treasurer	David Jurist
Sec. of State	David Schambach
Atty. General	David K. Williams

CU REGENT

2	Daniel Ong
7	Steve Golter

COLORADO SENATE

SD5	Lee Mulcahy
SD11	Norman Dawson
SD19	Gregg Miller
SD20	Chris Heismann
SD32	Darrell Dinges
SD34	Brian Scriber

COLORADO HOUSE

HD1	David Hein
HD3	Jacob Erbes
HD11	Bill Gibson
HD17	Susan Quilleash-Nelson
HD18	Randy Schneider
HD22	Lynn Weitzel
HD23	Michael Beckerman
HD25	Jack Woehr
HD26	Thom Haupt
HD27	Niles Aronson
HD29	Hans Romer
HD33	Carter Reid
HD40	Geoffrey Hierholz
HD43	Eric Price
HD44	Lily Williams
HD45	James Jeansonne
HD50	Justin Borowski
HD54	Kyle Davis
HD56	Chris Baerns
HD57	Sacha Mero
HD61	Mac Trench

COUNTY RACES

Boulder Clerk	Ralph Shnelvar
Boulder Comm. 3	Randy Luallin
Douglas Sheriff	Brock McCoy
Jefferson Assessor	Patrick Sullivan
Jefferson Sheriff	Brett Almy

To find out more about the Libertarian candidates in Colorado and support their campaigns, please visit:



lpcolorado.org/candidates

"NSA spying treats everyone like a terrorism suspect without cause. We must stop treating our citizens as enemy combatants."



Sean Haugh

— Sean Haugh,

LP North Carolina candidate for U.S. Senate

CHARACTER *Matters*

Libertarian Party National Convention – Columbus, Ohio – June 26-29, 2014

LP National Convention not just for delegates

Join us in Columbus, OH, for a weekend of camaraderie and to recharge your batteries

By Nancy Neale
Chair, Convention
Management Committee

This year is not a presidential nominating convention, and there seem to be no highly contested races for LNC. For sure, there will be important bylaws and platform changes up for consideration, and these should not be underestimated.

But I have tried to stress that this convention is not just for delegates. It's a great libertarian conference built around the business meetings of the delegates. This is a great opportunity to gather together Libertarians from all over the country (delegates or not), as well as bring in new people who may be just beginning their discovery of libertarianism and the LP, for a weekend of camaraderie and to recharge your batteries. The speaker lineup is already superior to those of the past two conventions, and more will be added. You won't be disappointed!

As you know, our chairman made a trip to Europe last year and met a great many libertarian leaders. Among these was a young and dynamic Russian, **Vera Kichanova**. Only in her early twenties, she has done more than many of us have done in the libertarian movement.



Vera Kichanova

Vera is a libertarian activist who has been described as one of "Putin's Unruly Children." In 2012, she was elected as a municipal deputy in Moscow's Yuzhnoye Tushino district, where she fights for more transparency on the part of the local authorities. In 2013, she received a Democracy Award from the National Endowment for Democracy. While in Washington, D.C. to receive the award, she met with National Security Adviser Susan Rice in the White House. In Moscow, she has worked as a journalist and is a frequent and vocal advocate for liberty, having been detained or arrested many times for her activities. She has become one of the most visible and internationally known faces of the Russian opposition, and has been featured in articles in the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, *Der Spiegel*, *Reason.com*, and more. (You can do a Google search and find many articles about her.)

Turn page for more speakers!

We have an exciting array of speakers for you in June, including Lawrence Reed, Alexander McCobin, Jeffrey Tucker, Rob Kampia, Gov. Gary Johnson, Judge James Gray, Mark Skousen, Harold Ambler, Elizabeth Gentner, and Marc Harrold.

Two libertarian luminaries are also coming in from England. **Guy Montrose** is the current chair of the Libertarian Party in the United Kingdom (LPUK).

Guy had always had an interest in politics and at age 17 began with leafleting as a young conservative. (Like Margaret Thatcher, he was a fan of Hayek.) He continued his activity as a conservative and around 2002 was encouraged to "stand" (run) for councillor in the town of Poole in Dorset. He was chair of the Licensing Committee, which oversaw all manner of licensing. Four years later, he served a term in another city in Dorset, where he became chairman of the Health Scrutiny Committee, a powerful post that reports to the National Health Service. He was asked by party leaders to stand for Westminster, but did not want to move his family to London. Also, he had already become aware of the LPUK and had fallen out of love with conservatives and David Cameron. His public service ended in 2011 after eight years. Guy says that the LPUK is a few decades behind the LP here, and that inclusion of Libertarian candidates in national debates will very much help libertarian parties in other countries.

Joining him will be cofounder, past chair, and current leader of the LPUK, **Andrew Withers**.

Andrew studied politics and history at university and always considered himself a classical liberal, noting Thomas Jefferson and Robert Nozick as political influences. Also starting early in politics, he was a member of the Campaign for Electoral Reform from the age of 17; it occurred to his young mind that the two-party state did not reflect the will of the people, and that proportional representation was the



Guy Montrose



Andrew Withers

only way that politics would have any meaning for an increasingly disinterested public. The intervening 40 years proved this to be correct after Blair had a landslide victory with less than 40 percent of the votes cast. He successfully used the Freedom of Information Act to sue a British cabinet minister who was maintaining a file on Andrew in his private office at public expense. Andrew has also served elective office on the Clevedon Town Council in Avon.

These three international speakers look forward to sharing their experiences with us, and to learning from Libertarians here in the United States. Other Europeans may be joining us, as well.

And, for you movie and theater buffs out there, we are pleased to have **Michael Grossberg**, representing the Libertarian Futurist Society. Michael founded the non-profit LFS in 1982 to sustain the Prometheus Awards for pro-freedom science fiction. He also co-founded the Free Press Association, which sponsored for 15 years the Mencken Awards for outstanding libertarian journalism. Lucky for us, he's in the area! He has been the theater critic/arts reporter for *The Dispatch* in Columbus for close to three decades. (I knew him in Los Angeles before he got the job in Columbus, and he actually authored much of the early Libertarian Party Platform.) Now an American Theatre Critics Association leader, Michael has served as ATCA vice-chair, new-play-awards chair, and coordinator of ATCA's annual Tony award recommendation of an outstanding regional theater to the Broadway League. During his years at *The Dispatch*, he has been recognized 18 times in journalism competitions for features, reviews, columns, and reporting — most recently for Best Arts Profile (first place, 2011) and Best Arts Reporting (first, 2012) from the Best of Ohio Journalism Awards, plus Best Critic in Ohio (second, 2013) from the Society of Professional Journalists. He has contributed to 10 books, including several annual essays for the *Burns Mantle Theatre Yearbook*, a leading annual reference work. He's written for *Reason*, *Liberty*, *Libertarian Review*, and the performing arts weekly *Backstage*.



Michael Grossberg

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Preliminary Schedule May differ in detail from final schedule

Libertarian Party 2014 National Convention, June 26 – June 29
Columbus, Ohio • Hyatt Regency: 350 N High St., Columbus, OH 43215

Thursday 6/26	Friday 6/27	Saturday 6/28	Sunday 6/29
7:00			7:00
	Breakfast with Speaker: Vera Kichanova	Breakfast with Speaker: Melyssa Hubbard	
9:00	Keynote: Larry Reed		
10:00			
11:00	Floor BusinessBreak Outs	Floor BusinessBreak Outs	Floor BusinessBreak Outs
Noon			Noon
1:00	Lunch with Speaker: Jeffrey Tucker	Lunch with Speaker: Mark Skousen	
2:00	Alexander McCobin		
3:00			
4:00	Floor BusinessBreak Outs	Floor BusinessBreak Outs	
5:00			
6:00			
7:00	TBD: This will include special receptions for donors, possible debates, caucus meetings	Cocktail Reception	
8:00		Banquet: Includes Gov. Gary Johnson, Judge Jim Gray, "Ben Franklin," and Elizabeth Gentner.	
9:00			
10:00		More to be added!	

Not just for delegates

...continued from page 5

Hot off the presses is the new book *Spanking City Hall: Dominatrix to Political Activist*, by **Melyssa Hubbard**.


The book is her true story as a former professional dominatrix who, along with some libertarian friends, founded the Indiana Tea Party in 2007. She received a national Tea Party Prize from the Sam Adams Alliance & Foundation, accepting the award in Chicago in December 2007, and was named one of the Top 50 Political Influencers in Indiana by Howey Politics. Two years later, the Indiana Tea Party was hijacked by the GOP.

She “spanked city hall” using a skill set honed in her dungeon. Reminding them that the individual is dominant over the government, she mobilized her friends and neighbors in a successful property tax revolt, which kept more than \$2 billion in the pockets of Indiana homeowners. The humorous and entertaining protests she organized always garnered media attention, but the circus was always backed up by her intelligence and her strength of character. She also helped cause the biggest election upset when an underdog challenger unseated an incumbent mayor in Indianapolis, who had tried many times to close down her businesses.

Melyssa gives credit to many Libertarians and other patriots for her success as a political protester and champion of the individual. She took time off as a top salesperson for Angie’s List to write the book, and wants to share her story of individual empowerment and self-actualization with as many Libertarians as possible. She says, “There is no freedom without self-actualization!”

More speakers will have been added by the time you read this. We will hear from some prominent candidates running for office, and there will be a panel of elected Libertarians to share their stories; their names will be added online as they are confirmed, so please check out the convention website at LPcon2014.org for these and other updates!

Make sure that you book your hotel room at the Hyatt Regency Columbus by the beginning of June. After June 5, we must relinquish any rooms left in our block back to the hotel to be made available to the general public. The \$119 rate will still be honored, but only if there are rooms available. If you have any problems please email me at Nancy@LP.org.



Melyssa Hubbard

LP 2014 National Convention Speakers

Lawrence Reed

President, Foundation for Economic Education

Lawrence W. (“Larry”) Reed became president of FEE in 2008, after serving as chairman of its board of trustees in the 1990s and both writing and speaking for FEE since the late 1970s. Prior to becoming FEE’s president, he served for twenty years as president of the Mackinac Center for Public Policy in Midland, Michigan. He also taught economics full-time from 1977 to 1984 at Northwood University in Michigan and chaired its Department of Economics from 1982 to 1984.



Lawrence Reed

He holds a B.A. degree in economics from Grove City College (1975) and an M.A. degree in history from Slippery Rock State University (1978), both in Pennsylvania. He holds two honorary doctorates, one from Central Michigan University (Public Administration, 1993) and Northwood University (Laws, 2008).

A champion for liberty, Reed has authored more than 1,000 newspaper columns and articles, and dozens of articles in magazines and journals in the United States and abroad. His writings have appeared in the *Wall Street Journal*, *Christian Science Monitor*, *USA Today*, *Baltimore Sun*, *Detroit News*, and *Detroit Free Press*, among many others. He has authored or coauthored seven books, including *A Republic — If We Can Keep It*, *Striking the Root: Essays on Liberty*, *The Great Hope*, and *Are We Good Enough For Liberty?* He is frequently interviewed on radio talk shows and has appeared as a guest on numerous television programs, including those anchored by Judge Andrew Napolitano and John Stossel on FOX Business News.

Reed has delivered at least 75 speeches annually in the past 30 years — in virtually every state and dozens of countries from Bulgaria to China to Bolivia. His best-known lectures include “Seven Principles of Sound Policy” and “Great Myths of the Great Depression,” both of which have been translated into more than a dozen languages and distributed worldwide.

His interests in political and economic affairs have taken him as a freelance journalist to 81 countries on six continents. He is a member of the prestigious Mont Pelerin Society and an advisor to numerous organizations around the world. He served for 15 years as a member of the board (and one term as president) of the State Policy Network. His numerous recognitions include the “Champion of Freedom” award from the Mackinac Center for Public Policy and the “Distinguished Alumni” award from Grove City College.

He is a native of Pennsylvania and a 30-year resident of Michigan, and now resides in Newnan, Ga.

Alexander McCobin

Executive Director, Students for Liberty

Alexander McCobin recognized the formal principles of his beliefs after reading *Atlas Shrugged*, a birthday present from his father in 9th grade.

Throughout high school, Alexander participated in Lincoln-Douglas debate, which allowed him to study philosophy and particularly those who advocated the philosophical principles of liberty. (Alexander qualified to the Pennsylvania state tournament all four years of high school, the National Forensics League National Tournament, the Catholic Forensics League, and the Tournament of Champions twice.)

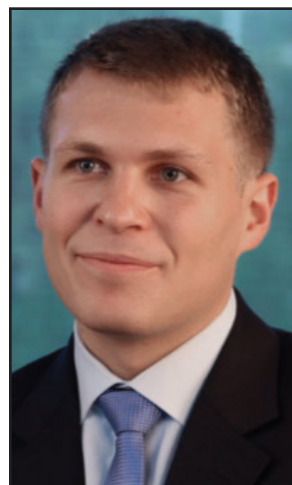
During college at the University of Pennsylvania, Alexander founded and ran the University of Pennsylvania Libertarian Association to promote discussion and education of libertarian ideas on campus and expand his horizons regarding the power of the message of liberty, as well as a nonprofit organization that promoted youth debate education to underserved students in the greater Philadelphia and mid-Atlantic region.

In the summer of 2007, he was an intern at the Reason Foundation, where he researched privatization efforts around the United States. In May 2008, Alexander graduated from Penn with a B.A. in philosophy and economics and an A.M. in philosophy.

He spent the following year working as a Koch Associate at the Cato Institute, focused on marketing, development, and student programs. He is currently a fourth-year graduate student at Georgetown University, pursuing his Ph.D. in philosophy with areas of interest in political philosophy and business ethics.

“After my first two years of college, I nearly gave up on my libertarian principles because I thought I was alone,” McCobin said. “It wasn’t until, by luck, I discovered others who believed in the same principles as myself that my passion to advocate for liberty was reignited. Students For Liberty exists to prevent other students who believe in liberty from feeling alone and empower them to pursue liberty whenever possible. Seeing SFL grow from a flicker of an idea into an incredible organization has only reaffirmed my passion for liberty and my belief that by bringing students together in a common effort for liberty, we can change the world.”

His favorite libertarian figures are Ayn Rand and F.A. Hayek.



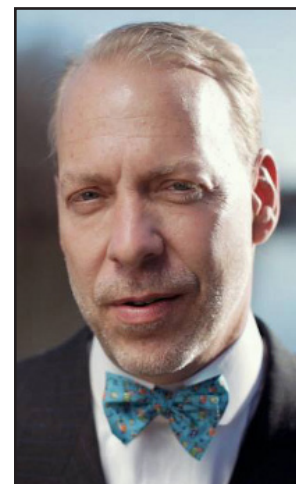
Alexander McCobin

Jeffrey Tucker

CLO, Liberty.me; Publisher and Executive Editor, Laissez Faire Books

Jeffrey Tucker serves as CEO of Liberty.me, a social network and community-based publishing platform for the liberty minded. He is also distinguished fellow of the Foundation for Economic Education, Executive Editor of Laissez Faire Books, and research fellow of the Acton Institute.

He is the founder of the CryptoCurrency Conference, serves as economic consultant to the popular podcast “Let’s Talk Bitcoin,” and writes and curates for Praxis, the online educational venture. He is author of *Bourbon for Breakfast*, *It’s a Jetson’s World*, and *A Beautiful Anarchy*, and thousands of articles, introductions, and prefaces. Following his 15 years as editor and builder of the website Mises.org, he now writes and speaks widely, and curates and writes editorial introductions to the product offerings for the Laissez Faire Club.



Jeffrey Tucker

Rob Kampia

Executive Director, Marijuana Policy Project

Rob Kampia co-founded the Marijuana Policy Project in 1995 and has served as its executive director ever since. With 25 staff members and lobbyists in six state capitals and Congress, MPP is the largest marijuana policy organization in the world.

Rob is the architect of most of the state-level marijuana laws that have been enacted in the United States since 2000:

- Most importantly, MPP legalized marijuana in Colorado in 2012. As a result, Colorado has the best marijuana law in the world.
- MPP decriminalized marijuana possession via a ballot initiative in Massachusetts in 2008. Since then, MPP passed similar laws through the Rhode Island and Vermont legislatures.
- MPP was also instrumental or entirely responsible for legalizing medical marijuana in Arizona, Delaware, Hawaii, Illinois, Michigan, Montana, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont, and the District of Columbia



Rob Kampia

continued on page 8...

National Convention speakers

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between 2000 and 2013.

Rob has provided fiery testimony before Congress twice, as well as testifying before nine state legislatures. Rob has been quoted in almost every newspaper in the United States and regularly debates prohibitionist opponents on national television, including on CNN, the Fox News Channel, the Fox Business Network, CNBC, and MSNBC. Of course, Rob also regularly discusses the marijuana issue on network television, both nationally and locally.

Gov. Gary Johnson

LP Presidential Candidate, 2012 Election

Gary Johnson, who has been called the “most fiscally conservative governor” in the country, was the Republican governor of New Mexico from 1995–2003. Gov. Johnson brings a distinctly businesslike mentality to governing, believing that public policy decisions should be based on costs and benefits, rather than strict ideology.

History & Family: A successful businessman before running for governor of New Mexico in 1994, Johnson started a door-to-door handyman business to help pay his way through college. Twenty years later, he had grown that business into one of the largest construction companies in New Mexico, with more than 1,000 employees.

Johnson is best known for his veto record, which includes more than 750 vetoes during his time in office, more than all other governors combined. His use of the veto pen earned him the nickname “Governor Veto.” He cut taxes 14 times while never raising them. When he left office, New Mexico was one of only four states in the country with a balanced budget.

Term-limited, Johnson retired from public office in 2003. An avid skier, adventurer, and bicyclist, he has climbed the highest peak on five of the seven continents, including Mt. Everest.

In 2009, becoming increasingly concerned about the country’s out-of-control national debt and precarious financial situation, Johnson formed the OUR America Initiative, a 501(c)(4) nonprofit organization that promotes fiscal responsibility, civil liberties, and rational public policy. He traveled to more than 30 states and spoke to more than 150 conservative and libertarian groups during his time as honorary chairman.

In the 2012 presidential election, Johnson garnered more votes than any other Libertarian candidate in history. He has two grown children — a daughter, Seah, and a son, Erik, and currently resides in a house he built himself in Taos, N.M.



Gov. Gary Johnson

Personal Accomplishments: Scaled the highest peaks of six continents, including Everest. Competed in the Bataan Memorial Death March, a 25-mile desert run in combat boots wearing a 35-pound backpack. Participated in Hawaii’s invitation-only Ironman Triathlon Championship several times. Mountain-biked the eight day Adidas TransAlps Challenge in Europe.

Judge James Gray

LP Vice-Presidential Candidate, 2012 Election

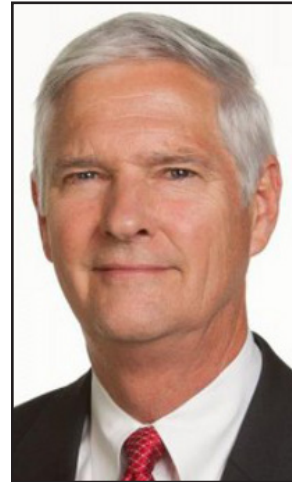
Judge James (Jim) P. Gray is a nationally known and respected author and speaker who has long advocated reform of the nation’s drug laws. A highly regarded jurist, Judge Gray served on California’s Orange County Superior Court from 1989 to 2010. His hundreds of media appearances have included Fox News, ABC, C-SPAN, and radio stations across the country. He is the author of three books.

History & Family:

Raised in the Los Angeles area, Gray’s father, William P. Gray, was a judge on the U.S. District Court. Following in his father’s footsteps after earning his undergraduate degree from UCLA and his law degree from USC, Judge Gray served as a staff judge advocate and criminal defense attorney in the U.S. Navy’s JAG Corps. After his Navy service, for which he was awarded Vietnam Service and Combat Action ribbons, Gray worked as a federal prosecutor with the U.S. Attorney’s Office in Los Angeles.

In 1983, Gov. George Deukmejian appointed Gray to the Santa Ana Municipal Court, and in 1989 elevated him to the Orange County Superior Court. He retired from the Superior Court in 2010. Gray has been awarded an Honorary Doctor of Jurisprudence degree from Western State University College of Law, as well as an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from Chapman University School of Law. Gray is married to Dr. Grace Walker Gray, and has four children, including an adopted Vietnamese son. They reside in Newport Beach, Calif.

Personal Accomplishments: A respected and outspoken advocate for reform of California and federal drug laws, Gray is the author of a 2001 book, *Why Our Drug Laws Have Failed: A Judicial Indictment of the War on Drugs*, and was featured in the 2007 documentary *American Drug War: The Last White Hope*. He is one of the principal sponsors of a 2012 California ballot initiative to regulate cannabis production and consumption similarly to wine. He is also the author of *Wearing the Robe: The Art and Responsibilities of Judging in Today’s Courts* and *A Voter’s Handbook: Effective Solutions to America’s Problems*. He is also the author and composer of the musical *Americans All*. In 2009, the Constitutional Rights Foundation of Orange County named its annual “Judge of the Year” award after Gray.



Judge James Gray

Mark Skousen

Founder and Producer, FreedomFest

Dr. Mark Skousen is a professional economist, financial advisor, university professor, and author of more than 25 books. Dr. Skousen has taught economics and finance at Columbia Business School, Barnard College, Columbia University, Mercy College (all in New York), and Rollins College in Winter Park, Fla. In April 2005, Grantham University honored Dr. Skousen by renaming its business school “The Mark Skousen School of Business.”

In 2001–02, he was president of the Foundation of Economic Education (FEE) in New York. He was recently named one of the top 20 most influential living economists (www.superscholar.org).

From 1972–75, Dr. Skousen was an economic analyst for the CIA. Since then, he has been a consultant to IBM, Hutchinson Technology, and other Fortune 500 companies. He has been a columnist for *Forbes* magazine (1997–2001), and has written articles for the *Wall Street Journal*, *Liberty*, *Reason*, and the *Journal of Economic Perspectives*. He has appeared on ABC News, CNBC Power Lunch, CNN, Fox News, and C-SPAN Book TV, as well as extensively on radio stations and online.

Since 1980, Skousen has been editor in chief of “Forecasts & Strategies,” a popular award-winning investment newsletter published by Eagle Publishing in Washington, D.C. (markskousen.com).

He is also editor of his own website, mskousen.com, and three trading services, Skousen Hedge Fund Trader, High Income Alert, and Hot Commodities Alert.

From 2005–07, Skousen was the chairman of Investment U, one of the largest investment e-letters in the country, with more than 300,000 subscribers. Now Skousen is the editor of his own free e-letter, “Skousen CAFE,” at eagledailyinvestor.com.

He earned his Ph.D. in economics and monetary history from The George Washington University in 1977. Since then he has written more than 25 books, including *The Structure of Production* (New York University Press, 1990); *Economics on Trial* (McGraw Hill, 1991); *Puzzles and Paradoxes in Economics* (Edward Elgar Publishers, 1997); *Vienna and Chicago, Friends or Foes?* (Capitol Press, 2005); *EconoPower* (Wiley, 2008); his economic textbook *Economic Logic* (Capital Press, 2010, 2014); and *The Making of Modern Economics* (M. E. Sharpe, 2009), which won the Choice Book Award for “Outstanding Academic Title.”

His financial bestsellers include *The Complete Guide to Financial Privacy* (Simon & Schuster, 1983); *High Finance on a Low Budget* (Bantam, 1981), co-authored with his wife Jo Ann; *Scrooge Investing* (Little



Mark Skousen

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National Convention speakers

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Brown, 1995; McGraw Hill, 1999); *Investing in One Lesson* (Regnery Publishing, 2007); *Maxims of Wall Street: A Compilation of Financial Adages, Ancient Proverbs, and Worldly Wisdom* (Eagle Publishing, 2011). His latest book is *A Viennese Waltz Down Wall Street: Austrian Economics for Investors* (Laissez Faire Books, 2013).

In 2006, on the 300th anniversary of Benjamin Franklin's birth, he and his wife Jo Ann compiled and edited *The Completed Autobiography by Benjamin Franklin* (Regnery Publishing, 2006).

In the mid-1990s, he served as editor of the investment series, "Secrets of the Great Investors," with Louis Rukeyser as narrator.

He is the founder of FreedomFest, an annual gathering of the freedom movement from around the world, held every July in Las Vegas (freedomfest.com).

Harold Ambler Climate Researcher

Harold Ambler received his journalism training at the *New Yorker*, where he worked for six years. His writing has appeared in the *National Review Online*, the *New York Daily News*, the *Wall Street Journal*, the *Huffington Post*, the *AtlanticWire*, the *Berkeley Daily Planet*, the *Providence Journal*, *Providence Business News*, and *wattsupwiththat.com*. He lives in Rhode Island with his wife and two daughters.



Harold Ambler

Ambler's book *Don't Sell Your Coat: Surprising Truths About Climate Change* is a wonderful book that sets the record straight on many myths about the subject. Though not a scientist, Ambler's training as a journalist allowed him to undertake extensive research, and he does an excellent job presenting the subject matter in a very fact-based but accessible manner, poking holes in many of the global-warming alarmists'

claims — including by Al Gore. He provides great ammunition for any of us trying to debunk that claim that "all the science is in" on climate change.

Elizabeth Gentner Soprano Soloist, "The Red Diva"

Elizabeth Gentner, featured vocalist at the convention Banquet, is a professional performer working out of Sausalito, Calif. Elizabeth made her North Bay Opera premier as Alice Ford in *Falstaff*. Elizabeth's previous roles include multiple performances of Violetta in *La Traviata*, Gilda in *Rigoletto*, Madame Goldentrill in *The Impresario*, Leonora in *Il Trovatore*, the title role in Puccini's *Madama Butterfly*, Michaela in Bizet's *Carmen*, and others with Berkeley Opera, Verismo Opera, Capitol Opera, and more. She has made appearances as a soloist throughout the Bay Area, including with the Kensington Symphony Orchestra and Golden Gate Opera. Her other appearances include the roles of Susanna in *Le Nozze di Figaro* and Lucy in *The Telephone*.



Elizabeth Gentner

Elizabeth currently studies with Sheri Greenawald, the director of the San Francisco Opera Center, and Jane Eaglen, internationally renowned soprano and head of the Voice Department at Baldwin Wallace College. She moved to the Bay Area in 2007 from Boston, Mass., where she was the Soprano Soloist at Arlington Street Church for the Mozart *Missa Brevis in C* (KV 220) or *Spatzen Messe*, Vivaldi *Gloria*, the Brahms *Liebeslieder Waltzer* as well as many other works. Elizabeth attained a Master of Music in Voice Performance from Boston University in May of 2004. She studied with Dr. Sarah Arneson, the former chair of the Voice Department at Boston University. While studying there, she performed scenes and arias from *Susannah*, *Die Fledermaus*, *Die Entführung aus dem Serail*, and *Don Giovanni*, among other operas. She also performed in several recitals featuring works by Berg, Berlioz, Mozart, Strauss, and Brahms.

Before moving to Boston, Elizabeth lived in Miami, where she was a student at the University of Miami. A three-year veteran of the University of Miami summer program in Salzburg, Elizabeth has performed in many concerts, recitals and master classes in Austria. She also has an extensive background in German language. She has performed in a wide variety of productions ranging from opera to music theater. Her other roles include Fiona from *Brigadoon* and Princess Winifred from *Once Upon a Mattress*.

You can keep up with Gentner's current performances and events at TheRedDiva.com.

Marc Harrold Attorney, Legal and Political Analyst, Author

Marc Harrold is an attorney, legal and political analyst and author. He is currently a partner in the D.C.-metro-based Ferreyra & Harrold, PLLC, a full-service immigration law firm with partner Diego Ferreyra. Prior to launching his firm, Marc was an assistant chief counsel (prosecutor) with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), a component of the Department of Homeland Security. During his time with the ICE, Marc also served at the Agency's Washington, D.C., headquarters as an associate legal advisor providing legal counsel on several high-profile projects and programs and serving as one of the agency's Fourth Amendment experts.



Marc Harrold

A native of Huntington, W.V., Marc was raised in the South Hills area of Pittsburgh, Penn., and graduated from Mount Lebanon High School. Marc graduated from Clemson University with a degree in political science and moved to Atlanta, Ga., where he served with the city of Atlanta Police Department (APD). Marc was assigned to the Central Business District Discretionary Force during the 1996 Centennial Olympic Games. Marc's final assignment with APD was with the now-disbanded narcotics unit, Red Dog. Marc attended the University of Missis-

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P A I D S P O N S O R S H I P

Less Government. Period.

Maximilian Martin

Libertarian Party Candidate
For

Texas State Representative District 53



Browne, Winger elected to the Hall of Liberty

Former LP presidential candidate Harry Browne and ballot access expert Richard Winger are the 2014 inductees into the Libertarian Party's Hall of Liberty. The Hall of Liberty, established in 2012, honors lifetime or significant achievement that has made a lasting impact on the Libertarian Party and/or libertarian movement.



Harry Browne



Richard Winger

Awards Committee, offered the following statement:

"Harry Browne introduced millions of people to the libertarian perspective and the Libertarian Party through his books, media appearances, and LP presidential campaigns. The work of Richard Winger to provide LP candidates with access to the ballot has been

extremely important to the growth of the LP. Both men are worthy inductees into the Hall of Liberty."

Dr. Lark said that an induction ceremony will take

place during the 2014 National Convention in Columbus. Browne (who passed away in 2006) and Winger will join 2012 inductees Ed Clark, John Hospers, Roger MacBride, Tonie Nathan, and David Nolan in the hall.

Dr. Lark noted that election to the Hall of Liberty requires a unanimous vote of the Awards Committee (Michael Cloud, Kevin Knedler, Dr. Lark, Bill Redpath, and Mary Ruwart). He also noted that next month the committee will determine the recipients of the 2014 Samuel Adams, Patrick Henry, Thomas Paine, and Thomas Jefferson awards from the list of candidates nominated by the LP membership. The recipients will be announced during the 2014 National Convention.

LP state affiliates working toward ballot access

By Bob Johnston

Candidate and Affiliate Support Specialist

The Libertarian Party is currently recognized in 33 states. After the November, 2012 elections, the Libertarian Party was recognized in 30 states, more than ever before after a general election. Since then, the LP has garnered ballot access in **Arkansas, Hawaii, and North Dakota**. In addition, the LP can run statewide candidates in **Georgia**. The Ohio LP is currently involved in litigation regarding its candidates.

The LP is currently petitioning in **Illinois**. At least 25,000 signatures must be submitted by June 23. If the gubernatorial candidate receives 5 percent in the general election, the party will be recognized for the next two years. If a non-gubernatorial statewide candidate receives 5 percent, the Illinois party can run candidates for all statewide offices in 2016.

In **Alabama**, the LP is also undertaking a party petition, from the ground up. To get the party on the ballot in Alabama, more than 44,000 signatures need to be turned in by June 3. However, signatures are being collected on a county-by-county basis. Jefferson County, the most populous county in the state, has already been completed, and the LPAL hopes to petition in five other counties in order to be able to run a candidate for the U.S. House this November, as well as candidates for the state legislature.

In **Connecticut**, candidates can get on the ballot by collecting signatures by Aug. 4. Statewide candidates must collect 7,500 signatures. The amount varies for state and U.S. House candidates, depending on the district in which they're running. To become a recognized party, the gubernatorial candidate must get 20 percent of the vote, or else 20 percent of those Connecticut voters registered with political parties must be registered with the LP.

In **Iowa**, candidates can get on the ballot by collecting signatures between July 28 and Aug. 15. To become a recognized party for the next two years, the gubernatorial candidate must get 2 percent. Statewide candidates must collect 1,500 signatures, candidates for the U.S. House must collect 375 signatures, and candidates for the state

legislature need 50 to 150 signatures.

In **Kentucky**, candidates can get on the ballot by collecting signatures by Aug. 12. Statewide candidates need 5,000 signatures, and U.S. House candidates need 400. State Assembly candidates require 100 signatures.

In **Maine**, candidates can get on the ballot by collecting signatures by May 25. Statewide candidates must collect 4,000 signatures, U.S. House candidates need 2,000, and state legislature candidates need 50 to 200. If the gubernatorial candidate receives 5 percent, then the party is recognized.

In **Massachusetts**, candidates for the state legislature can get on the ballot by collecting 150 to 300 signatures by May 6. Candidates for Governor and U.S. Senate must collect 10,000 signatures, and other statewide offices need 5,000, due July 29. To become a recognized party, it must have at least 1 percent of the state's registered voters, or a statewide candidate must get 3 percent of the vote.

In **Minnesota**, candidates can get on the ballot by submitting signatures by June 3. Statewide candidates must collect 2,000 signatures, U.S. House candidates need 1,000, and 500 signatures are required for candidates for the state legislature. If a statewide candidate receives 5 percent, then the party is recognized for the next four years. A party can also gain party status by running a full slate of candidates for the statewide offices and at least half of the U.S. House and state legislature seats.

In **New Hampshire**, candidates can get on the ballot by collecting signatures by Aug. 6. Statewide candidates must collect 3,000 signatures, and U.S. House candidates need 1,500. The amount varies for state candidates, depending on the district in which they're running. To become a recognized party, the gubernatorial or U.S. Senate candidate must get 4 percent of the vote.

In **New Jersey**, candidates can get on the ballot by collecting signatures by June 3. Statewide candidates must collect 800 signatures, and U.S. House candidates need 100. There are no races for the state legislature this year.

In **New York**, candidates can get on the ballot by

collecting signatures between July 8 and Aug. 19. Statewide candidates must collect 15,000 signatures, U.S. House candidates need 3,500 signatures, and candidates for the state legislature need 1,500 to 3,000 signatures to get on the ballot. To become a recognized party, the gubernatorial candidate must get at least 50,000 votes. In 2010, the gubernatorial candidate, Warren Redlich, received more than 48,386 votes, only 1,614 shy of the party status threshold.

In **Pennsylvania**, candidates can get on the ballot by collecting signatures by Aug. 1. Statewide candidates must collect at least 16,639 signatures. The amount varies for state and federal candidates, depending on the district in which they're running. To become a recognized party, the party must have at least 15 percent of the registered voters.

In **Rhode Island**, candidates can get on the ballot by collecting signatures between June 23 and July 11. U.S. Senate and gubernatorial candidates must collect 1,000 signatures, and candidates for the U.S. House need 500. Candidates for the state legislature must collect 50 to 100. If the gubernatorial candidate gets 5 percent, the party is recognized for the next two years.

In **Virginia**, candidates can get on the ballot by collecting signatures by June 10. Statewide candidates need to collect 10,000 signatures, with 400 minimum from each of the 11 congressional districts. U.S. House candidates need to collect 1,000 signatures. There are no races for the state legislature this year. To become a recognized party, a statewide candidate must get 10 percent of the vote. Rob Sarvis, the 2013 gubernatorial candidate, is working to get on the ballot as the U.S. Senate candidate for this November.

In **Wisconsin**, candidates can get on the ballot by collecting signatures by June 1. Statewide candidates must collect 2,000 signatures, U.S. House candidates need 1,000, and candidates for the state legislature need 200 to 400. A statewide candidate must get 1 percent for the party to become recognized for the next four years.

Thanks to Richard Winger, publisher and editor of Ballot Access News, for his assistance with this article.

After narrow loss of 2012 SC house seat, Jeremy Walters faces same opponent in 2-way

By Carla Howell

Libertarian Jeremy Walters won 47 percent of the vote for state house in South Carolina's 26th district in 2012, coming within inches of being elected to the highest-level office that the Libertarian Party has achieved in its history.

Winning a legislative seat in South Carolina would be especially noteworthy, given that the state is anything but a bastion of liberty and fair elections. New Hampshire, Alaska, and Vermont are the only states where a Libertarian has won a state house seat, last achieved in 2000.

Walters won his impressive vote total in spite of the fact that his Republican opponent, Raye Felder,



Jeremy Walters

raised and spent seven times as much money as Walters did.

Now he's taking on incumbent Felder for round two, with no Democrat in the race. The filing deadline passed on March 30.

Walters's 2012 race was aided by the fact that Felder had to run as a nonpartisan "petition candidate" after being struck from the Republican ticket on a technicality. Although Walters won't have the same advantage this time, he has perhaps the best chance of winning a state legislative seat that the LP has seen in years.

Because he campaigned extensively last time and built a name for himself in the district, he has become a force to reckon with. The local paper, the *Fort Mill Times*, was calling him to see whether he would run again this year before he filed his candidacy.

The Daily Kos website rates the race in the 26th district as a "lean R," meaning the Republican is more likely to win, but it's not a sure bet. Otherwise they would rate it "likely R" or "safe R." With sufficient support, Libertarian Walters could be within striking distance of a victory.

Walters first entered politics and built a name for

himself in the state capital in 2012 when he successfully championed and lobbied for a custody bill which was signed into law in June of that year. His tenacity prompted State Sen. John Knotts to call Walters a "pit bull" and the right man for the job.

He hasn't stopped swinging since. He successfully fought off Republicans who tried to knock him off the ballot in 2012.

Last year, he filed a lawsuit in an attempt to remove Democrat Marlin Kimpson from the 42nd district Senate seat. Kimpson won in a special election last October, but in violation of the law. If successful, Libertarian Alex Thornton, who lost in the race, would have been seated by default.

Walters is running on a bold platform to end the state income tax.

"Ending the state income tax will put more money in the budgets of working families and create thousands of new private sector jobs," he said. "And it's the only way to force the legislature to cut waste."

Now serving as vice chairman for the South Carolina LP, Jeremy Walters is gearing up for a full-time, full-speed-ahead effort to win the 26th house seat in 2014. His website is: waltersforhouse.com

Preparation required: Tips for successful LP candidate interviews

By Dimitri Vassilaros

Talk Host, NewsRadio 1020 KDKA

The most important question a Libertarian Party candidate must answer is the one he first should ask himself: why do I want to be interviewed?

Publicity is important, but only as a means to an end. Think of all the politicians who purchased vast amounts of campaign advertising, and yet were ignored by the voters. The same, for untold numbers of commercials for products that didn't sell.

A megaphone is useless to a mime. LP candidates must have something to say. An interview is a device to tell many other people about the Libertarian message of shrinking government. There's something to shout about!

The next most important question might not be asked by the reporter or show producer, but it must be answered by the candidate: Why should we interview you?

Reporters and producers seldom become excited at the thought of listening to policy wonks discussing political philosophy. They want interesting, stimulating, compelling, topical issues and guests.

They aren't into doing favors for candidates. The LP candidate must convince the media gatekeepers that he can be a great interview.

The topic of the interview might be chosen by the reporter or producer. For example, local real estate taxes are skyrocketing. How would the Libertarian small-government principles help to lower — and even eliminate — property taxes?

If there is no show topic, the candidate must iden-



tify which issues matter most to the audience. That day's news might open the door to discuss how Libertarian small-government solutions are simple and practical.

For example, if it's "pothole" season, show how big government is so inefficient that it can't properly patch potholes. But small government or private companies can, and do, a much better job of caring for the roads.

Convert Libertarian small-government solutions into big impact sound bites: short, snappy, succinct.

When Dr. Ron Paul, the LP presidential candidate in 1988, recently proposed a Libertarian solution to bring about peace and prosperity, he said:

"Free and abundant trade is much more conducive

to peace, because it is generally bad business to kill your customers."

For your interview, bring two cheat sheets with your vital contact information, such as the URL of the campaign website, email address, Twitter name, Facebook fan page, phone number, etc.

Give one to the reporter or show producer; keep the other with you if you're asked how people can reach you.

And please consider bringing a wide assortment of donuts, cookies or other baked goods for the staff at the station or newspaper. Yes, goodies. These days, most newsrooms have people who are overworked, underpaid and unappreciated. Free food can generate a tremendous amount of good will and favorable impressions.

Ask for a copy of the interview. Sometimes, they are available, but there might be a charge. Download podcasts of the interview that might be posted on websites.

Review your performance on the talk show or news report with campaign staff. Focus on what worked and what can be worked on. If the host or reporter made a mistake or two, please do not contact him to offer constructive criticism.

Regardless of how the interview went, please consider doing what very few others bother doing; send a thank-you card via snail mail. Thank the interviewer for his time and interest. That message will stand out, because almost no one else does that.

And the next time there is an opening on the show for a guest, or a reporter needs to interview someone, the person who brought donuts and sent a thank-you card might get a call.

Frequently-asked questions about the 2014 LP National Convention

While the primary purpose for an LP national convention is to conduct party business, we also traditionally have great guest speakers — for delegates and non-delegates!

The events color-coded in green on the schedule grid are “plenary” events where we are all together (mostly for meals); there are no other official events happening at the same time. Running concurrently with the business sessions will be a track of breakouts, which is a schedule of speakers and panels. We often use “breakouts” and “workshops” interchangeably.

You will also hear various terms for the business sessions and where they take place: business sessions, floor business, general session (hotel term), main floor, main hall, main convention hall.

Do I have to be a member of the LP to attend the convention?

No, anyone can attend the convention! We especially encourage newbies and outsiders to check us out! Anyone can buy a package for admission to the breakouts and meal events. (See the registration at LPcon2014.org page for ordering.)

What is the difference between a delegate and an attendee?

Being a delegate is a “legal” designation (so to speak), as set forth in our party bylaws. Being officially credentialed as a delegate allows you to participate in the business sessions, where internal items will be covered and voted on, including changes to the platform, changes to the bylaws, and election of party officers and other LNC members. (See the delegates page at LPcon2014.org.)

Being an attendee is the designation of the convention organizers and indicates that you have registered by purchasing admission to the various convention events. (See the registration page at LPcon2014.org.)

The convention organizers, staff, and Credentials Committee are striving to make both processes as efficient as possible!

How do I become a delegate?

You must be an LP member (either state or national) to become a credentialed delegate (or alternate) and

participate in the business sessions.

Each state has its own procedure for becoming a delegate to a national convention, consistent with the national LP bylaws, so check with your state and/or local party officials. If you have already missed the deadline for being included in the delegate list, you may be able to be credentialed on-site. Some states allow members from other states to be credentialed in their state.

The Credentials Committee issues delegate (and alternate) ribbons. Credentialing will start on Thursday afternoon, and continue throughout the convention. (See delegates page at LPcon2014.org.)

If I am a delegate, do I have to pay for anything?

We encourage all delegates to at least purchase the basic delegate package (\$50), which includes the opening welcome reception on Thursday evening, and also allows you to hear the keynote (Lawrence Reed) and other speakers in the main convention hall (in the Regency ballroom). Your delegate package also includes your printed name badge and a tote bag with all the materials you will need to function effectively as a delegate, including the current platform and bylaws and the reports from the Platform and Bylaws Committees, with their proposed changes. (All these things cost money to produce, so your minimum purchase of a delegate package helps to defray these costs, aka, tanstaaf.)

If I am a delegate, can I also attend the breakouts?

Yes, if you have purchased a package that includes them (at least a bronze). The track of breakout (workshop) sessions run concurrently with the business. If you are a delegate, you are not required to be in the business sessions at all times, although you would be encouraged (perhaps by your state's delegation chair) to be “on the floor” as much as possible.

Are there any free events?

Anyone can be in the common areas and visit the vendor and exhibit areas free of charge. For most of the time, anyone can observe the business sessions from the balcony in the Regency ballroom.

Some individuals or groups will likely host free

events, such as a workshop or other presentation, or host a hospitality suite.

(Also see the next section for pre-convention meetings.)

When should I arrive?

You should arrive on or before Thursday afternoon, June 26. Registration will likely begin in the early afternoon, as well as delegate credentialing. (As we get closer to the time of the convention, we will post the time that registration opens. It's good to get registered and credentialed as soon as you can.)

The first event is the welcome reception on Thursday evening. There will be a variety of brief talks, entertainment, and some light refreshments and a cash bar. This is a great time to network and socialize with your fellow Libertarians (and do some politicking)!

There are some pre-convention meetings, mostly pertaining to platform and bylaws proposals that will be presented as part of the business agenda for the weekend.

The current LNC will hold its final meeting of their term on Thursday afternoon. (Observers are allowed except for if/when they go into “executive session” to discuss confidential matters.)

The Platform Committee and Bylaws Committee will meet on Thursday, and possibly for part of Wednesday (times TBD, observers allowed).

The Credentials Committee will begin to meet on Thursday prior to the opening of registration (ditto above).

The LSLA is planning a day of political nuts-and-bolts training on Thursday. (See LSLA.org.)

Must I stay in the Hyatt Regency Columbus?

You are not required to stay in the Hyatt, but we encourage you to do so, especially with events starting early in the morning and hospitality suites going on at night. Our special rate of \$119/night is for single to quad occupancy, so room-sharing could save you money. And room-nights booked for our group (using the special link on the hotel page) keeps other hotel costs down, which helps the LP.

If you still have a question, send it to Nancy@LP.org.

Convention speakers

...continued from page 9

issippi School of Law, where he graduated with honors. During his time at Ole Miss, Marc served on both the *Mississippi Law Journal* (Law Review) and the *Journal of National Security Law*. Marc was chosen as part of the U.S. Department of Justice's Summer Honors Program and served as a law clerk to U.S. Department of Justice, Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) General Counsel Bo Cooper.

After law school, Marc served as an associate attorney with Memphis-based law firm Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz. Marc left Baker Donelson in 2002 and returned to Mississippi to work for the National Center for Justice and the Rule of Law (NCJRL), a U.S. Department of Justice funded research center. Marc also served as a member of the Ole Miss Law School faculty

teaching, among other courses, white collar crime and criminal trial practice. Marc also taught numerous courses as an adjunct professor for the University of Mississippi Legal Studies / Criminal Justice Department at the undergraduate level.

Marc has trained state, local, and federal law enforcement personnel, as well as state trial and appellate judges, prosecutors, and criminal defense attorneys throughout the United States in a wide variety of legal issues.

Marc is author of *Observations of White Noise ... an 'Acid Test' for the First Amendment* and *5 Days Out*, and was coauthor of *Mississippi Criminal Trial Practice* with Ron Rychlak. Marc has published numerous law review articles, and was a regular contributing columnist for the *Clarion Ledger*, Mississippi's largest newspaper. Marc has been frequently quoted by a large number of diverse publications, including the *Wall*

Street Journal, *Mother Jones* (letter to the editor), *Playboy*, *Zimbio.com* and *FOXnews.com*. Marc has appeared on the FOX News Channel programs “Fox & Friends” and “America's News HQ”; the CNN HLN programs “Nancy Grace,” “Issues with Jane Velez-Mitchell,” “Prime News,” and “News Now”; Tru TV's “In Session”; BBC America's “World News TV”; Canada's CTV; RT's “The Big Picture”; and the Court TV programs “The Best Defense” and “Courtside.”

Marc appears frequently on national radio networks, including Wall Street Radio's “The Daily Wrap,” America's Radio News Network, and FOX News Radio, and has made appearances on dozens of radio stations throughout

the United States, including nationally syndicated programs hosted by Mancow Muller, Bob Salter (WFAN), Curtis Sliwa, and Rita Crosby.

Marc currently lives in Fairfax, Va., and appears on media most frequently in Washington, D.C., and New York. He is running as LP Virginia's candidate for U.S. House in the 11th district.

Are you thinking of running for office? Or do you just want to learn more?

Go to LP.org/run-for-office and send us your inquiry. You'll receive information from your state LP affiliate or from the national LP headquarters that you need to get started, file your campaign, comply with your state's election laws, and get on the ballot.

AFFILIATE News And Events

Affiliate news and events are provided to LP News by Libertarian Party state affiliates.

Illinois

Petitioning to place 10 candidates on ballot

The Libertarian Party of Illinois is deep into its petition drives to get 10 candidates on the ballot for the November election. Volunteers are seizing opportunities to gather signatures at popular places like parades, festivals, gun shows, train stations, and sporting events.

The state's local chapters are having fun with a competition to bring in the most signatures. A trophy is on the line and a video of chapters challenging each other has been posted on Facebook and YouTube.

In addition to petitioning, Illinois candidates have been developing their campaigns, recruiting volunteers, designing materials, and introducing themselves to potential voters and donors.

The Illinois party is assisting them by hosting a series of campaign workshops. Some of the candidates who attended the messaging workshop were Chris Michel (secretary of state), Alex Cummings (Lt. governor), Matthew Skopek (treasurer), Julie Fox (comptroller), and Sharon Hansen (U.S. Senate).

The Illinois Convention Committee is making plans for the 2014 convention, scheduled for Sept. 12 through 14 in

Bolingbrook. Throughout the weekend, attendees will enjoy a range of speakers, panel discussions, and candidate interviews along with some game show fun with a Libertarian twist. The business meeting will be conducted on Sunday, with officer elections and bylaw changes on the agenda.

All are invited to make new friends, support the candidates, and share thoughts on liberty and political leadership. More information can be found on the party website, LPillinois.org.

Indiana

Indiana LP says, "Thanks but no Tanks!"

The Libertarian Party of La Porte County calls for the immediate return of the recently acquired military Mine Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) vehicle by the Michigan City Police Department, and seeks your support.

Here are just a few concerns from a Sept.–Oct. 2011 Army Sustainment report concerning the MRAP's use in combat:

- "The MRAP is also too large and unwieldy to operate in a constrained environment ..."
- "However, the minute it is off the road on uneven terrain, it becomes cumbersome and susceptible to rollovers."
- "The MRAP is also extremely tall and wide and is therefore very difficult to take into an urban environment with

low-hanging wire and narrow streets."

- "MRAPS consistently require replacements of heavy-duty transmissions, engines, axles and tires."

The acquisition of the MRAP should serve as a wake-up call for all LaPorte County residents. To date, the Department of Defense has distributed over 200 MRAPs and other military weapons to small- and medium-sized police departments around the country.

With the wide distribution of military equipment to local law enforcement agencies, many consider the Department of Defense's 1033 surplus program to be militarizing police departments and shifting the way police departments view citizens and law enforcement in their communities.

"What the Libertarian Party is most alarmed by is that MCPD requested this vehicle, based on an assumption that they have need for one. This is a large military vehicle solely designed to protect occupants from mine blasts. If MCPD felt their job required a mine resistant vehicle, when did Michigan City become a war zone?" commented Ray Wolff, LPLP Chairman.

Recent news releases fail to mention that MRAPs are expensive to maintain, prone to rollovers, difficult to maneuver in city environments, require great expense to outfit for police use, and at 20+ tons can cause untold damage to streets, bridges, and personal property.

"When the police are acquiring military grade vehicles and equipment, are they starting to view all Americans as potential enemy combatants? We don't believe this to be the case with MCPD, however, we should all be alarmed by this decision and direction," remarked LPLP Vice Chairman Jordan Carder.

"We predict MCPD will find new and innovative ways to use and justify use of this urban tank, regardless of the actual need and existing tools at their disposal. What happens when someone gets a shiny new toy? They'll simply find a way and reason to use it," said LPLP officer Greg Kelver.

The Libertarian Party of LaPorte County calls for MCPD to reverse its decision to obtain the MRAP and to return it under the 1033 Program's Turn-In/Transfer protocol.

The LPLP is seeking pledge donations to cover transportation costs of returning the MRAP back to the Department of Defense. Please call (855) 455-5757 or email us at atinfo@lplp.com for additional information or to make a pledge.

Kansas

Growing the party through legislation

The LPKS has been active in the Kansas legislature again this year. It has been the strategy of the LPKS executive committee to use legislation as a tool to show Libertarian solutions, provide platforms and support for its candidates, and ultimately grow the party.

This year's effort included verbal and written testimony on bills related to the Second Amendment, abolishing the death penalty, fluoride in public drinking water, and electronic surveillance.

The recent big news pertains to the success of long-term efforts initiated by the LPKS on Open Carry firearms and school choice.

The week of April 6 saw the passage of H.B. 2578, which completely pre-empts municipalities in the open carry of firearms, and a school choice bill.

For the past three years, The LPKS, with the full support of the Kansas State Rifle Association, led the effort to challenge all open-carry bans of holstered firearms on property open to the public. We started with requesting an attorney general's opinion, and then we traveled to various cities in Kansas, educating local officials on the law and addressing this issue face to face in city council meetings. In some cases, it required us to file lawsuits so that this Second Amendment right could be returned to local citizens.

We earlier successfully overturned bans in Overland Park, Wichita, Lenexa, Gardner, Topeka, and Silver Lake. By exposing the unlawful acts of these municipalities, we helped bring to light the problem law-abiding gun owners faced through the previous patchwork of laws.

The current lawsuit against the city of Prairie Village still stands as of this posting. With the passage of this state-wide law we are hopeful that this city will capitulate.

Additionally, five years ago the LPKS wrote the Kansas Education Liberty Act (KELA). This universal school choice bill was described by national supporters as one of the best school choice bills ever written. The LPKS promoted it and worked with legislators to get it entered into the legislature two times. While the Republicans in Kansas over the last two years eventually changed the bill in size and scope, the recent bill was still similar in concept and language.

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LP Illinois candidates Chris Michel (secretary of state), Alex Cummings (Lt. governor), Matthew Skopek (treasurer), Julie Fox (comptroller), and Sharon Hansen (U.S. Senate).

AFFILIATE NEWS AND EVENTS

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This year's tax-credit scholarship program started out as H.B. 3777, which ultimately stalled in committee. After that process, the Kansas Supreme Court issued a ruling in the Gannon case, which required the state to spend an additional \$120 million on education to boost equity funding. To comply with the ruling, the legislature created a bill that appropriated the money, but added some additional measures as part of the package. One of those measures was the newly resurrected tax-credit scholarship program. It passed out of both houses on April 6.

School choice now has its start in Kansas because of the initial years of work by the LPKS. It is our new desire to greatly expand upon this success. The LPKS has been the leader in educational choice inside the state of Kansas. While this bill still needs the governor's signature, we anticipate that it will be signed into law this year.

Mississippi

Convention draws more than 80 attendees

The following article about the LP Mississippi State Convention, titled "Libertarians, at state convention in Biloxi, out to break their losing streak" and written by Paul Hampton, appeared in the Sun Herald on April 5:

The Libertarian Party is growing, and longtime Libertarians say it is moving toward mainstream.

"I've been to national conventions, Minneapolis ... others for years," said Charles Mackey Clark of Ocean Springs. "It was all ... survivalists and academics. This is wonderful."

The more than 80 Libertarians at the Beau Rivage Resort & Casino on Saturday for the state convention were an eclectic bunch.

A tattooed young woman played with a toddler on the floor. There were retirees, a mother-to-be, people of all ages there to vote on their officials, meet their candidates and hear pep talks about how to grow the party.

Clark said he attended state conventions at the Holiday Inn in Jackson with 12

people. On Saturday, 84 people were there by 6 p.m.

The party's 2012 presidential candidate, former New Mexico Gov. Gary Johnson, said he probably always was a Libertarian, even though he served two terms as a Republican, 1995 to 2003. He said that is one of the party's biggest image problems now; people think of them as Libertarian/Republican/conservative.

"I did not see getting elected as a Libertarian," he said. "As you know, no Libertarians get elected. There are rare exceptions but not on the national level."

"The things that Libertarians have been talking about forever are really happening. Legalizing marijuana, marriage equality, military intervention, the example of Obama and Congress ... when they both were ready to go into Libya and Syria. And [lo] and behold 80 percent of Americans said they didn't want that to happen and that stopped that right in its tracks. So in spite of Libertarians not getting elected, those issues are really happening, those issues that Libertarians have been touting."

Libertarian party line

Johnson rattled off the party line: close the Department of Education and several others, most notably the IRS; get rid of income and corporate taxes and replace them with a consumption tax; and stop military intervention. That's for starters.

"I'm fiscally conservative but I'm a flaming liberal when it comes to civil liberties."

Two candidates say they hope they can end the party's losing streak.

Joey Robinson of Gulfport wants to unseat U.S. Rep. Steven Palazzo, R-4. Robinson said he was raised by grandparents, who he said were very independent people who never asked for help. He said that rubbed off on him but he had to ask for fellow Libertarians' help now.

"I don't want to be doing this," he said. "I'd rather be at home with my kids right now. But when I look at the state of affairs of this country, I don't see my kids growing up with the same opportunities I had. The jobs aren't there. The financial markets aren't there. I spent months talking to friends and complaining a lot, as

most of us do.

"But I can't do that and expect things to change for my kids. So I decided to make this effort and run."

Primary contests

Former Congressman Gene Taylor will face Palazzo, Ron Vincent, Tom Carter and Tavish Kelly. Democrats Trish Causey and Matt Moore also are running for that nomination.

Outgoing party chairman Danny Bedwell, who said he is stepping down to focus on the race for the District 1 seat held by Republican Alan Nunnelee, knows he'll be outspent.

"I'm not going to accept money from corporations, from PACs," he said. What he would like is for 100 donors to give him \$1,000 each.

"My opponent will spend \$440,000," he said. "I can win with \$100,000."

And he's for closing the IRS and Department of Education.

"I'm a limited-government guy and I make the limited-government argument," he said. "We need to bring these (troops) home. There are some things worth giving your life for and there are others that would break your mother's heart. We need to stop this nation-building imperialism. Repeal the 16th Amendment. Do away with the IRS and the income tax."

"The humanitarian in me says what we have to do is transition slowly, over two or three years and change our method of taxation."

Bedwell, Lajena Walley of the Reform Party, and the winner of the Democratic primary between Ron Dickey and Rex Weathers will face Nunnelee, who is unopposed in the GOP primary.

Missouri

30 candidates file for August primary

The Missouri LP is pleased to announce that 30 candidates filed on the party's ticket for the August 2014 primary election.

The Missouri LP has a full slate of candidates for the eight congressional districts (including one contested race in the 4th), a candidate for state auditor, the sole statewide race this election season (in which no Democrat filed), one state senate candidate, nine candidates for state representative and 10 candidates for partisan county offices. Numerous people in counties across the state also filed for committeeman/woman.

The full list of candidates is below.

Contact information is available online: lpmo.org/releases/2014-04-13-000000/689

- **U.S. Congress 1:** Robb Cunningham
- **U.S. Congress 2:** Bill Slantz
- **U.S. Congress 3:** Steven Hedrick
- **U.S. Congress 4:** Herschel L. Young
- **U.S. Congress 4:** Randall (Randy) Langkraehr
- **U.S. Congress 5:** Roy Welborn
- **U.S. Congress 6:** Russ Monchil
- **U.S. Congress 7:** Kevin Craig
- **U.S. Congress 8:** Rick Vandeven
- **State Auditor:** Sean O'Toole
- **State Senator 24:** Jim Higgins
- **State Rep 33:** Matthew (Matt) Stephens
- **State Rep 51:** Bill Wayne
- **State Rep 67 (and special election for same):** Jeff Coleman
- **State Rep 81:** Lisa Schaper
- **State Rep 83:** Andrew Bolin
- **State Rep 103:** Dean (Draig) Hodge
- **State Rep 137:** Bill Boone
- **State Rep 147:** Greg Tlappek
- **State Rep 153:** Ginny Keirns
- **Presiding Commissioner, Cass County:** Lora Young
- **Recorder of Deeds, Cass County:** Falon Kohler
- **Presiding Commissioner, Greene County:** Benjamin Brixey
- **Circuit Clerk, Greene County:** Arthur Hodge
- **Circuit Clerk, Howell County:** Lee Martin
- **County Legislature, 2nd District At Large, Jackson County:** Cisse Spragins
- **County Executive, Jackson County:** Richard Tolbert
- **Presiding Commissioner, Livingston County:** Jeff Foli
- **County Recorder, St. Charles County:** Michael Copeland
- **County Executive, St. Louis County:** Theo (Ted) Brown

Montana

"Top-two" bill won't appear on ballot

In a decision that came out March 25, the Montana Supreme Court decided that L.R. 127, the "top-two" primary bill, would not make it to the general election ballot. The court cited the lengthy and confusing title of more than 100 words as the main reason for refusing to place it on the general ballot. Republicans had placed L.R. 127 on the ballot as an effort

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AFFILIATE NEWS AND EVENTS

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to eliminate Libertarians from the general election, said Mike Fellows, chair of the Montana Libertarian Party. Voters would have had to approve the initiative in November for it to take effect.

“Montana voters want their views to be heard in the general election,” Fellows said, and L.R. 127 would limit those views.

Libertarians support the free market of ideas in politics, but the Montana Republican Party wanted to control the free market through L.R. 127 to achieve its goals, Fellows said, which included eliminating its competition from the general election. Fellows pointed out that most voters start looking at candidates and issues in the general election rather than during the primary.

The Montana Supreme Court said the initiative “lists approximately 100 separate statutes that would be amended and eleven that would be repealed in order to achieve the new proposed primary election system. It would take most persons well versed in the law a substantial amount of time and study to understand the details and implications of these changes.”

L.R. 127 (S.B. 408) was a confusing bill, said Fellows, and many Republicans legislators who voted for the bill couldn’t explain many of the changes contained in the bill. Republicans took a clue from Nancy Pelosi in passing a bill that they didn’t read, but that needed to pass because of procedure and time constraints. This will be one less thing Montana Libertarians will have to worry about in the general election.

In May, Libertarians will have an entry in the Corvallis Memorial Day Parade. It’s a small parade, but it kicks off the political season of parades in the Bitterroot Valley.

The Missoula County Libertarian Party recently came out against a Missoula City Council resolution on forming two new Urban Renewal Districts. These districts can be used to condemn private property and increase taxes on property owners. Many of these local laws affect us more than state or national legislation does.

Anyone wishing to attend the national convention in Columbus, Ohio, and wishing to be a delegate can contact the state chair, Mike Fellows.

Nevada

Make a stand against the 2-party system

Dear Libertarians and Friends of Liberty: It’s time to assemble Team Liberty and take Nevada back! Over the last decade, we saw what happens when we sit back and don’t get involved: Politicians drive Nevada further in debt, they impose more regulations, and they take away our freedoms.

If you don’t help grow the Libertarian Party, you have no voice and you don’t matter. And we are just as ignorant as the Democrats and Republicans say we are as they take away our freedoms, trample on our civil liberties, and steal every dollar out of our pocket saying “Thank you, please!”

It’s up to **YOU** to tell the politicians enough! It’s up to **YOU** and me and the Libertarian Party to stand up and fight for Nevada!

The two-party system is broken; there have been both Republicans and Democrats in power, and there is no difference! The Libertarian Party is the only party that can save Nevada and get her back on track. If we don’t get involved, we are guilty of what the other two parties accuse us of, being ineffective, and the only thing we will ever amount to being is a spoiler in elections.

Join us to make a stand against the two-party system. The Libertarian Party of Nevada (LPNevada) is hosting our first Volunteer Fair and Open house at our headquarters in Las Vegas. Meet Libertarian leaders and activist who leading the way for Liberty in Nevada. The purpose of this event is to get people like you involved in growing the Libertarian Party. We will discuss the new Divisional Structure, and go over each Division and the opportunities available in each Division.

Are you concerned with the direction Nevada is heading?

So are we; stop by these events and learn about all the amazing opportunities available to build the Libertarian Party and get Nevada back on track! LPNevada is recruiting leaders and activists for all Divisions. Prior to the Volunteer Fair and Open House, you can view our website (www.lpnvada.org) and check out these links:

• **Divisions:**

Visit lpnevada.org/about/divisions to learn about our Divisions

• **Help Wanted:**

Visit lpnevada.org/help to view some of the opportunities available.

The Libertarian Party of Nevada will provide complimentary refreshments and snacks. We are hosting three events initially so hopefully you can attend one without a scheduling conflict. These events are informal so you can mix and mingle and ask us questions. The events coincide with National Volunteer Week and are being held on:

- **Thursday, April 10, 2014** — 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
- **Friday, April 11, 2014** — 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
- **Sunday, April 13, 2014** — 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Whether you can donate one hour a month, 30 hours a week, or if you would just like to check out our office, I would like you to stop by so we can share our ideas with you. There are many productive things you can do to help the party and our candidates. One of my favorite quotes is from Edmund Burke. He said, “Nobody made a greater mistake than he who did nothing because he could do only a little.”

Liberty does continue and with your help we can re-engage the R3VOLUTION, thank you for your continued support!

North Carolina

First-ever U.S. Senate candidate forum

The Libertarian Party of North Carolina held its first ever U.S. Senate candidate forum April 5 during the annual state convention in Durham. Candidates Tim D’Annunzio of Raeford and Sean Haugh of Durham answered questions submitted by Libertarians from across the state. The forum was streamed live and moderated by Barry Smith, *Carolina Journal* associate editor.

“This event was a perfect example of how political discourse should be conducted in our nation,” said Brian Irving, LPNC communications director. “Both candidates were respectful, talked about the issues, did not attack one another, and presented reasoned and rational arguments for their positions.”

“Even on issues where they clearly disagreed, they engaged in a friendly and open conversation, not free-for-all,” Irving said. “I’m proud of the candidates

and the Libertarian Party for the way this forum was conducted. Libertarians clearly showed the establishment parties how it should be done. It’s an example I wish they’d [follow] so that all North Carolina voters [could] be better informed.”

Two other forums were scheduled for April 27 in Asheville and May 4 in Wilmington.

The primary will be May 6. The Libertarian primary is open to all registered Libertarian and unaffiliated voters. In order to vote, however, you must register by April 11. Election law changes enacted last year eliminated same-day registration.

View the April 5 forum at LPNC.org.

Ohio

Ohio LP still appealing in federal court

The case continues but should be decided by the end of April. Because of an issue with the petitions, the LP candidate for governor, Charlie Earl, was removed from the ballot. We are hoping for a positive outcome prior to the May 6 primary. If we get a favorable ruling, there would be time to put Charlie on the LP Primary ballot, where electronic voting is done. Charlie is unopposed in the primary, so he only needs one vote to move to the November election.

Furthermore, the new ballot access law, created by S.B. 193, is being challenged. The issue in the new law is the removal of a party primary.

Statewide candidates still up in the air

As stated, the status of the LP candidate for governor/Lt. governor is in court. Steve Linnabary, candidate for attorney general, also was removed from the ballot due to an issue with his petitions. The state Supreme Court did not rule in our favor on the appeal. The LPO failed to provide enough valid signatures (500) for the other statewide races of auditor, treasurer, and secretary of state.

Meanwhile, the paperwork was filed in time to allow for a write-in campaign for two statewide offices. Bob Bridges is the write-in candidate for auditor and Kevin Knedler is the write-in candidate for secretary of state. Both need 500 citizens to write in their names during the LP primary on May 6.

Annual awards given at state convention

Top awards were given to the following people and affiliates: Impact

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LP STAFF

LP NATIONAL CHAIRMAN
Geoffrey J. Neale

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Wes Benedict

POLITICAL DIRECTOR
Carla Howell

OPERATIONS DIRECTOR
Robert Kraus

**CANDIDATE AND AFFILIATE
SUPPORT SPECIALIST**
Bob Johnston

**EDITOR & TECHNOLOGY
DEVELOPER**
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**MEMBER SERVICES & AFFILIATE
RELATIONS MANAGER**
Casey Hansen

SPECIAL PROJECTS
Nick Dunbar

MEMBER SERVICES SPECIALIST
Molly Schwoppe

THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY®
2600 Virginia Ave. NW, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20037
Phone: (202) 333-0008
Fax: (202) 333-0072
Website: www.LP.org

WHAT'S GOING ON IN YOUR STATE?

A list of Libertarian events can
be found online at:
LP.org/event

You can get more information
by visiting the website of your
state affiliate. See a list at:
LP.org/states

If there is an event you would
like to see listed on the
website, please send details to:

EVENTS@LP.ORG

OR CALL THE LP HEADQUARTERS AT
(202) 333-0008

Upcoming state conventions

LP Washington State Convention
Friday, May 30, through Sunday, June 1
Doubletree Hotel in Southcenter Seattle
16500 Southcenter Pkwy., Seattle, WA 98188
www.lpwa.org

LP Idaho State Convention
Saturday, June 21
To Be Announced: Caldwell, ID
www.lp.org/event/lp-idaho-2014-state-convention

LP Illinois State Convention
Saturday, Sept. 12, through Sunday, Sept. 14
Holiday Inn in Bolingbrook
205 Remington Blvd., Bolingbrook, IL 60440
lp.org/event/lp-illinois-2014-state-convention

LP Massachusetts State Convention
Saturday, Oct. 18
Tweed's Restaurant
229 Grove St., Worcester, MA 01605
lpmass.org

Affiliate News and Events

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Award to Nathan Eberly; Volunteer Award to Bob Bridges and Aaron Harris; Top Gun award to top county organizations went to Wood County, Butler County, and Guernsey County.

Local Grass Roots awards went to Eric Eberly of Wood County and Mark Noble of Franklin County. The New Spirit Award went to Michael Segrest.

The Ohio LP will be electing a new Central Committee and Executive Committee on May 31.

Ohio law provides that the Central Committee, as elected at the party primary on May 6, must meet to decide its leadership. The new Central Committee must also elect a new Executive Committee. It is the Executive Committee and the appointed division directors that run the day-to-day operations of the Libertarian Party of Ohio.

For more information on the Ohio party, go to www.lpo.org or send an email to info@lpo.org.

Wisconsin

Slate of 12 candidates endorsed for 2014

Wisconsin Libertarians held their annual state convention Saturday, April 12, at the Bridge-wood Resort in Neenah. Delegates con-

ducted the annual business meeting, who dedicated the convention to honoring the life and memory of the late Tonie Nathan, a founding member of the Libertarian Party, the party's first candidate for vice president of the United States, and the first woman in U.S. history ever to receive an electoral vote.

The convention endorsed a slate of candidates for public office in 2014, including:

- Robert Burke — Governor
- Joseph Brost — Lt. Governor
- Andy Craig — Secretary of State
- Tom Nelson — Attorney General
- Jerry Shidell — State Treasurer
- Joseph Kexel — Congress (1st)
- Gus Fahrendorf — Congress (6th)
- Rob Taylor — Congress (7th)
- Terry Virgil — State Senate (13th)
- George Meyers — State Assembly (66th)
- Jerry Seifert — State Assembly (84th)
- Chuck Schilling — State Assembly (97th)

Delegates were delighted to have the opportunity to hear the keynote address at the banquet by Gov. Gary Johnson, 2012 Libertarian presidential candidate, whose enthusiastic remarks about the future of freedom inspired the crowd to its feet.

The Libertarian Party of Wisconsin is Wisconsin's third political party, founded as an alternative to the two main political parties. LPWI principles promote a government that is fiscally conservative and socially liberal.

Media Buzz About the Libertarian Party

"While the major political parties strike threatening poses and hiss at one another, the Libertarians have already organized a national convention set for late June in Columbus, Ohio ...

"Democrats and Republicans each got about \$18 million of government money for their national conventions in 2012," says Wes Benedict, executive director of the Libertarian National Committee.

"We Libertarians pay for our own conventions," he adds."

Washington Times, 3/19/2014

"Recent polling confirms the increase of Americans turning their back on the two older parties and are registering to vote as either independent or as a libertarian if permitted by the government. Increasingly, independent voters are more important to political campaigns and decide many elections across the country."

Examiner.com, 4/3/2014



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What have you missed recently on LP.org?

- Rasmussen Poll shows 53% think neither Democrats nor Republicans represent the American people
- Libertarian Party says US military needs to get out of Japan
- Good news from Oklahoma on ballot access
- Libertarian Party bucks trend with 11% increase in voter registration
- Republican roots of rotten Common Core
- Florida campaign shows continued growth of Libertarian votes
- Libertarians to run record 37 candidates in Travis County, Texas
- Libertarian Party applauds Ron Paul suing IRS, calls for end of income tax